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Bugs Bunny™ Stowaway

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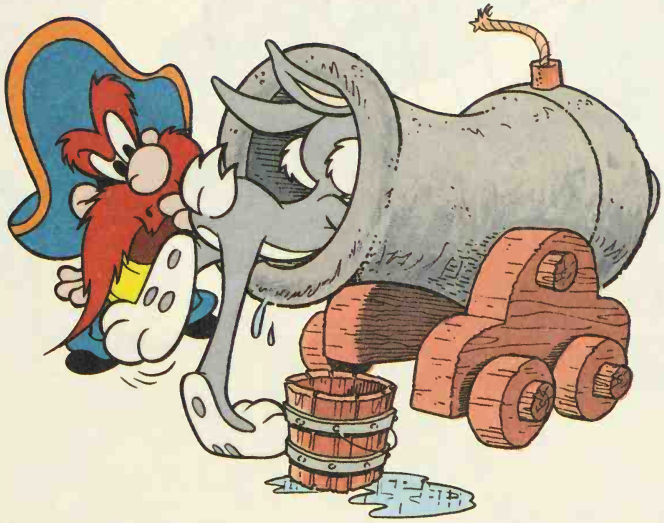
Bugs Bunny™

Stowaway

Written by Justine Korman



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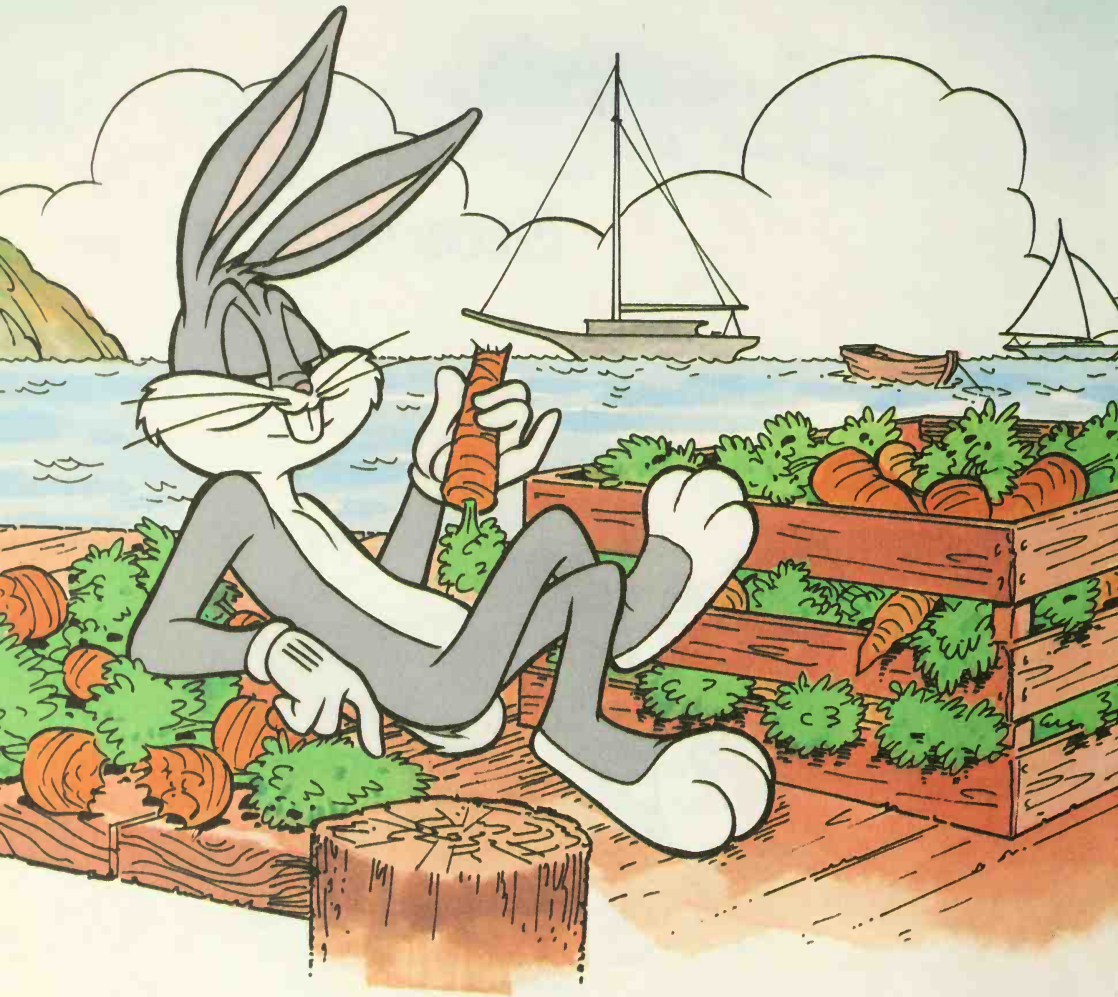


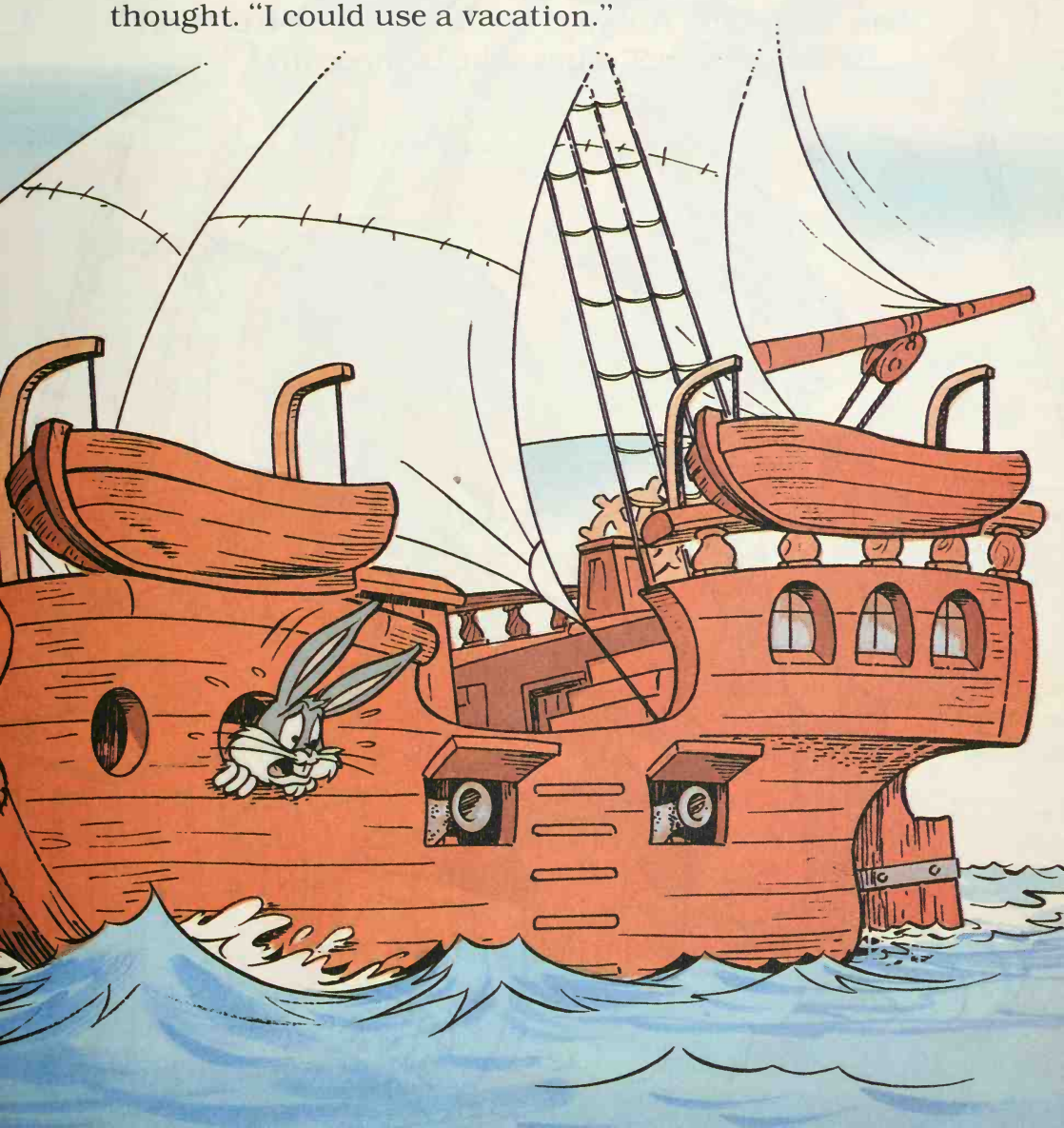
One day Bugs Bunny was strolling along the docks not far from his rabbit hole. There he had a beautiful view of boats coming and going on the ocean.

Suddenly Bugs saw a sight even more beautiful—a big crate of carrots! Bugs opened the crate and ate and ate until his teeth were tired. Then he crawled inside and fell asleep.

When he woke up, Bugs felt the ocean rocking beneath him and smelled the salty sea air.

"Where am I?" Bugs wondered. He looked out one porthole, then another, and realized that he was on a ship in the middle of the ocean.

"I hope this ship's going to Pismo Beach," Bugs thought. "I could use a vacation."

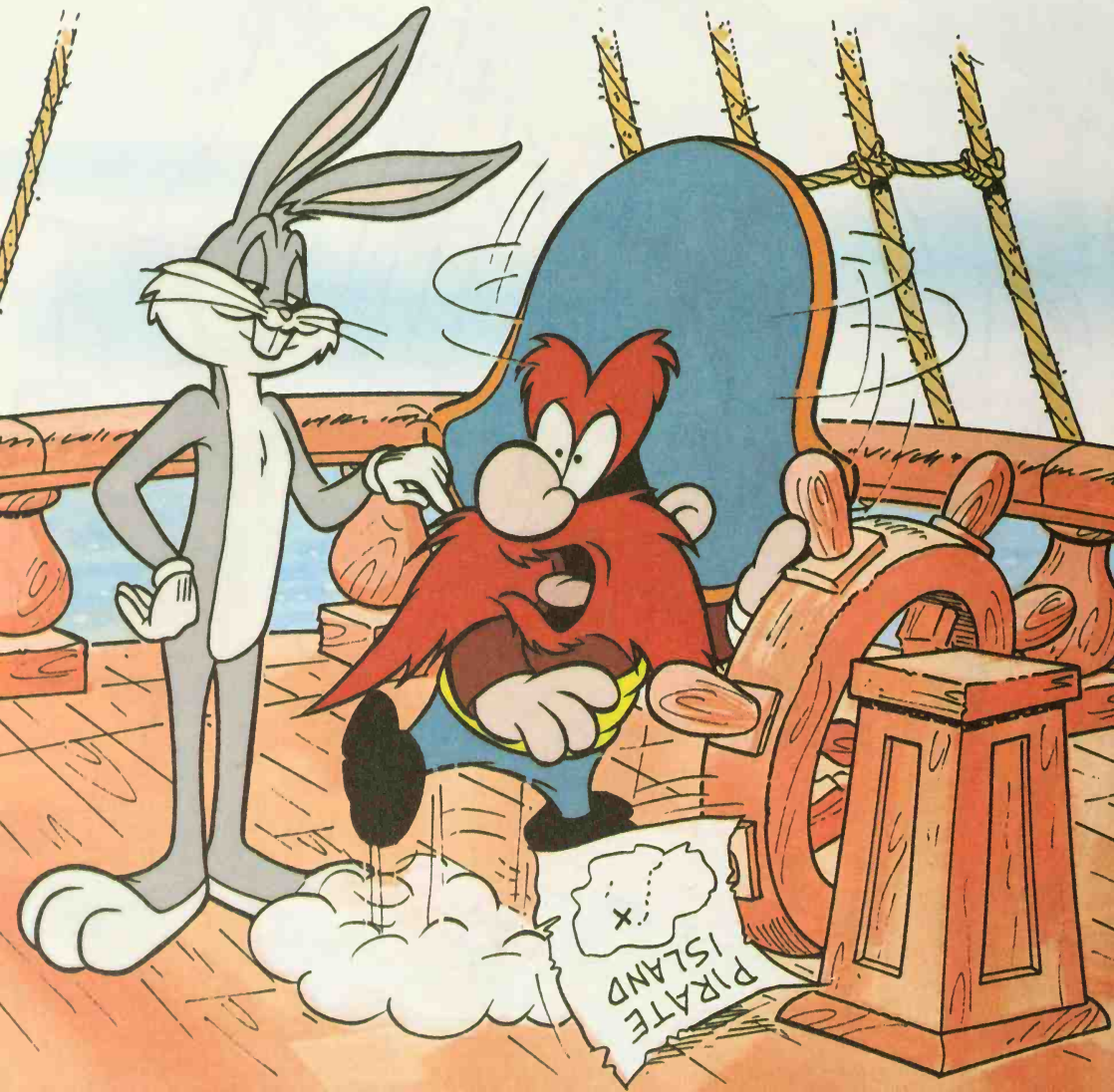


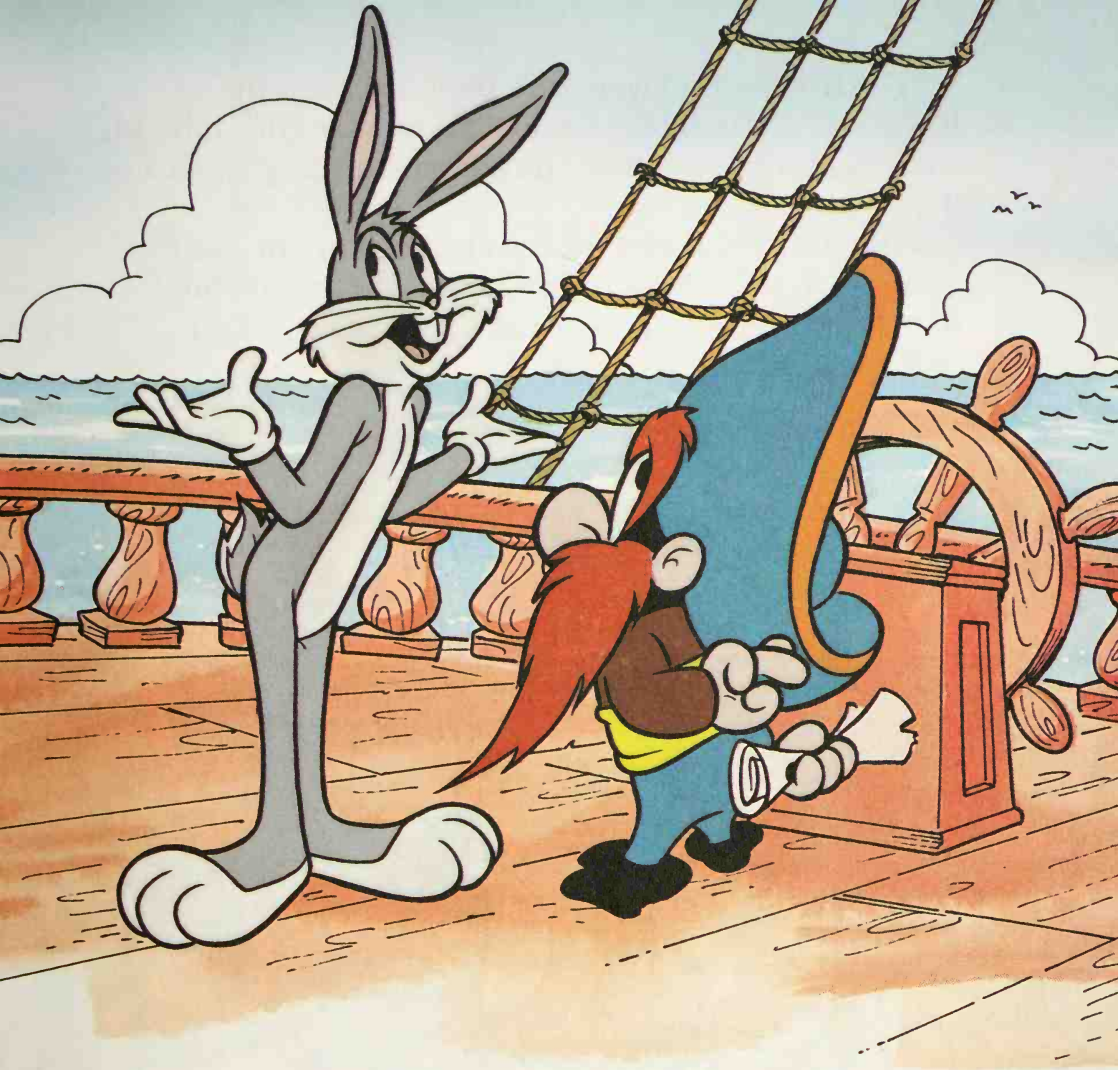
Bugs Bunny went up to the main deck and saw Captain Yosemite Sam steering his pirate ship while studying a hand-written map.

Bugs tapped Sam on the shoulder and asked, "What's up doc?"

"What're ya doin' here, ya long-eared landlubber?!" Sam shrieked. "Are ya tryin' ta steal muh treasure?"

"What treasure?" Bugs asked innocently.





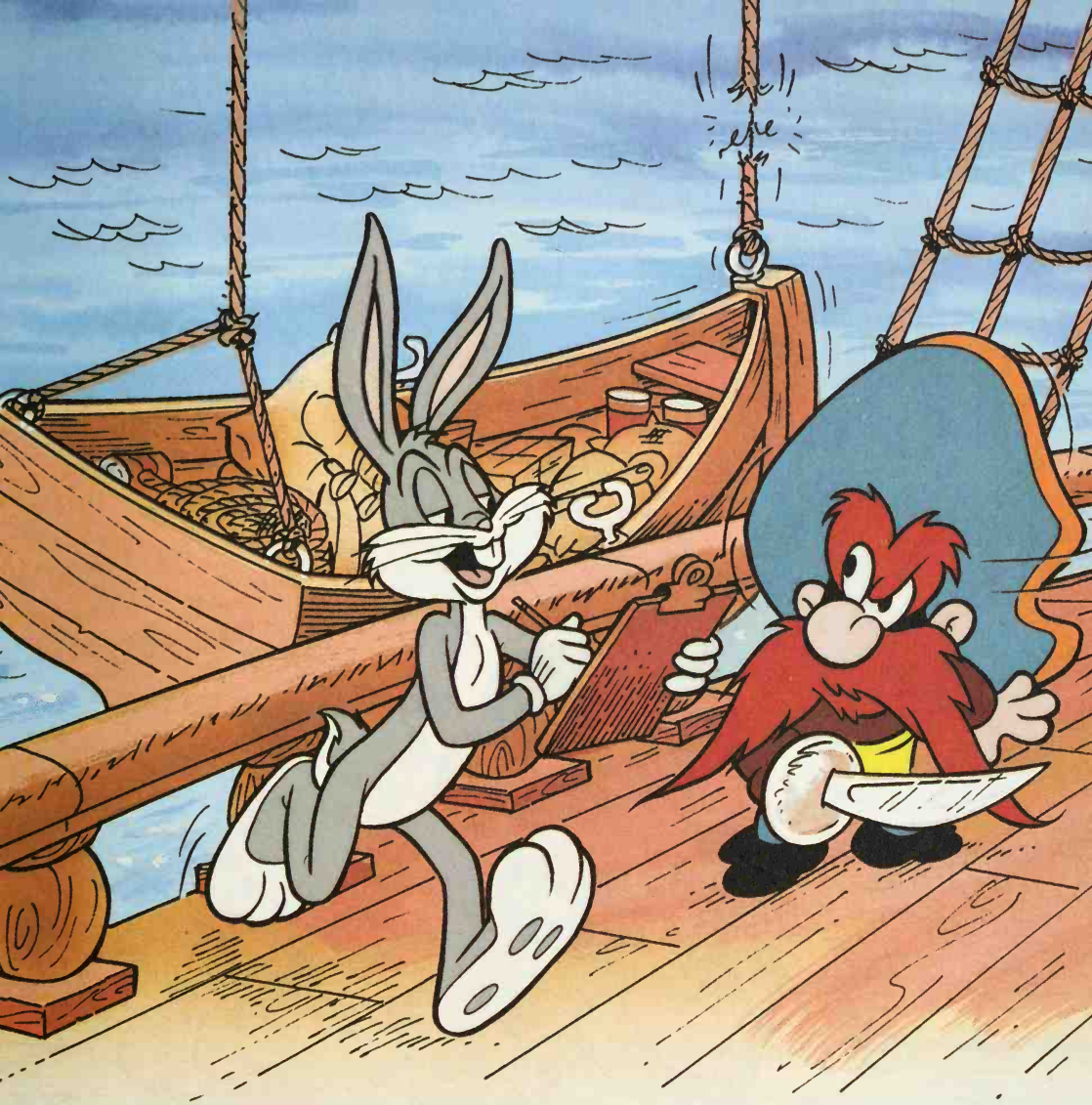
Sam grabbed the map.

"Look, doc, I'm not interested in treasure," Bugs began. "Just drop me off at Pismo Beach. On the way, I'll help with the ship. You look like you could use a crew."

Sam decided he might as well put Bugs Bunny to work.

"The first thing I want you to do is check the lifeboats," Captain Sam said. "Make sure they have all the emergency supplies," he added, handing Bugs a list.

While Bugs checked off the supplies in one boat, Sam made small cuts in the ropes holding the boat to his ship. "So long, ya stinkin' stowaway," Sam thought, chuckling.



By the time Bugs reached the end of the list, the lifeboat was hanging by threads.

"It's all here," Bugs reported.

"Then haul 'er up!" Sam commanded, stepping back to avoid the expected splash.

But to Sam's surprise, the ropes didn't break.

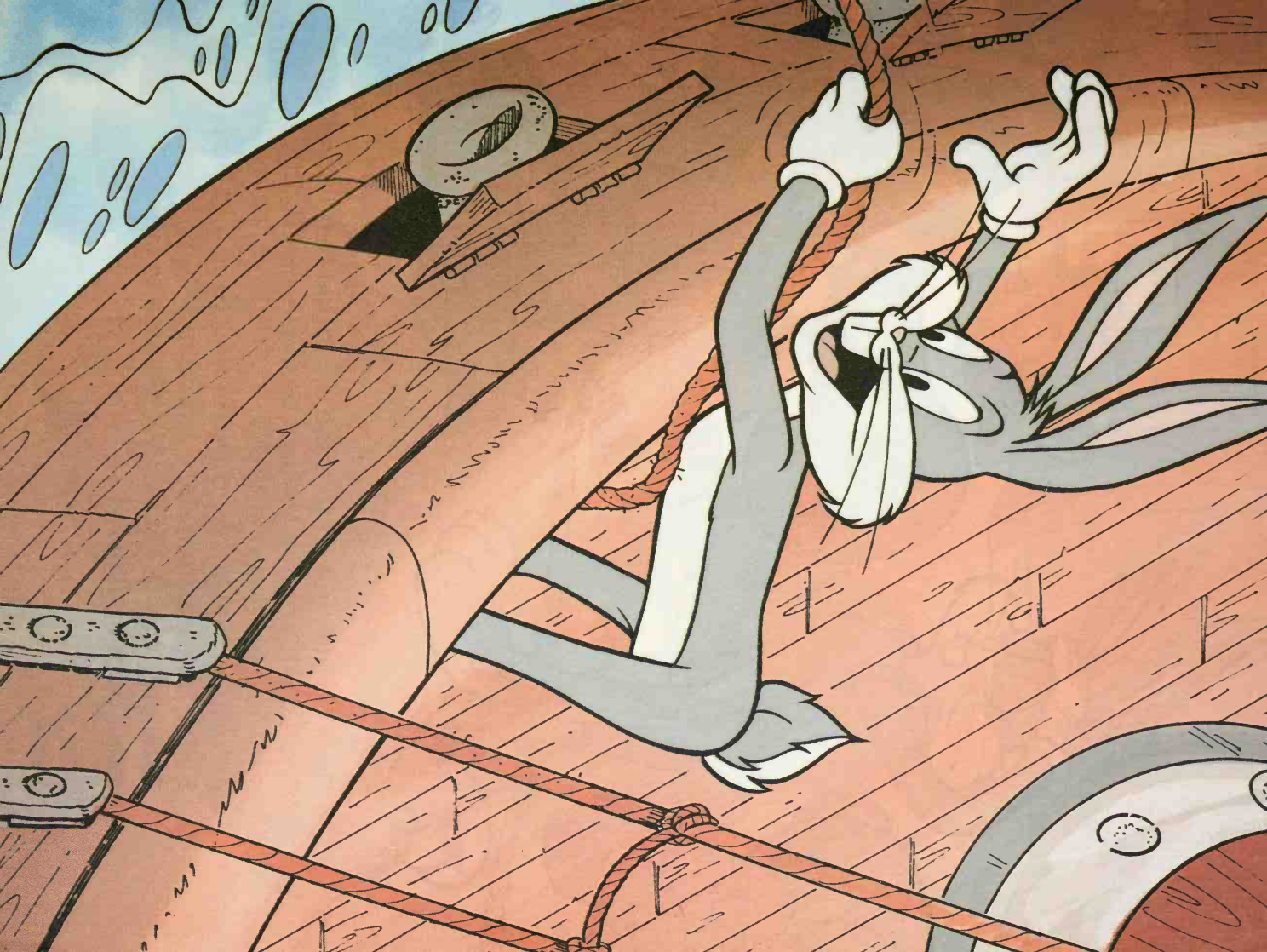
"What the—I mean, hmm, I better check the boat myself," Sam said, wondering why the ropes had held.

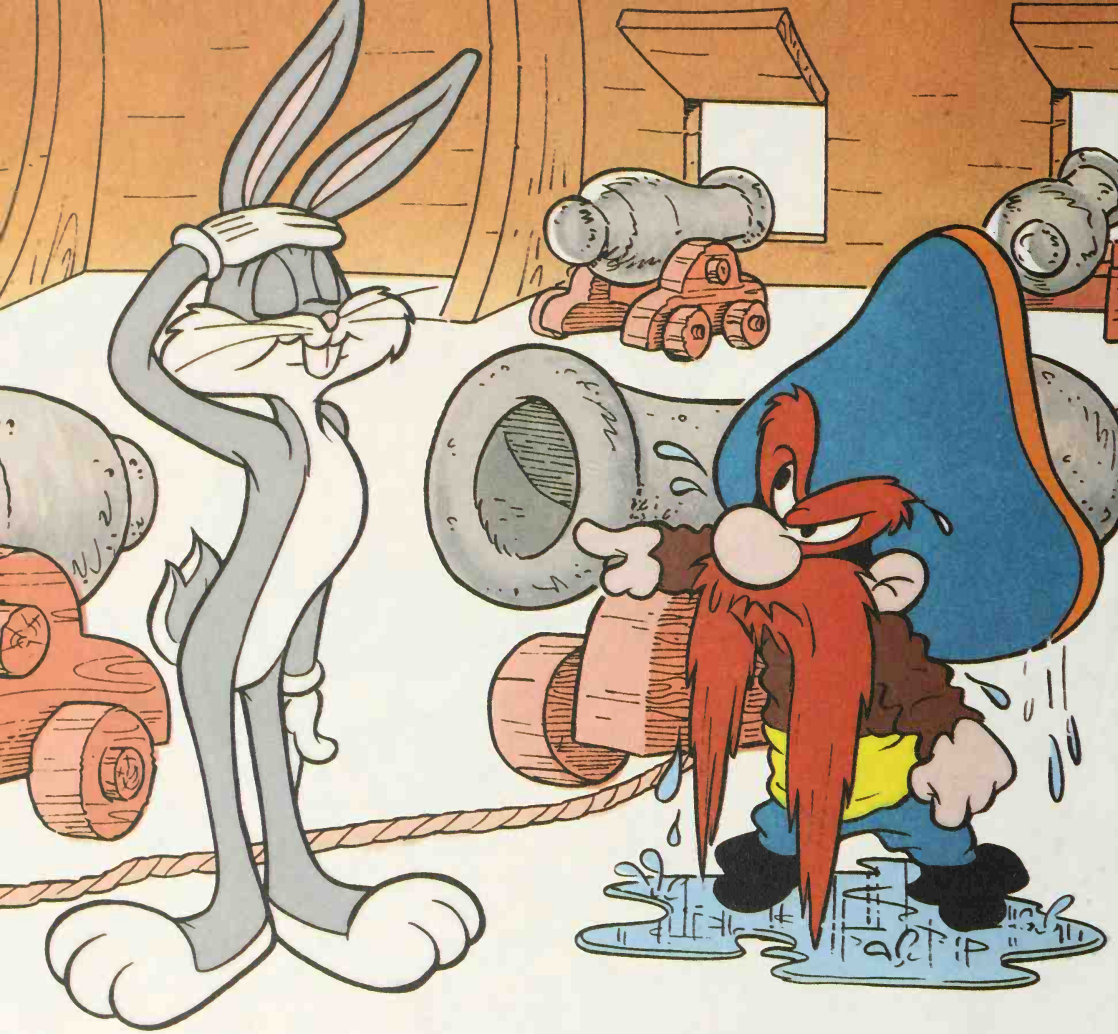
As soon as Sam stepped into the lifeboat the ropes broke. The boat fell into the ocean with a great splash.

Bugs leaned over the side of the ship.

"Hey, ya long-eared landlubber!" Sam shrieked. "Throw me a rope!"

"Whatever you say, doc," Bugs replied.





Back on his ship, Sam came up with a fiendish plan. "This'll get that buck-toothed barnacle offa muh ship!" Sam muttered gleefully.

"It's time to clean out the cannon," Sam told Bugs.

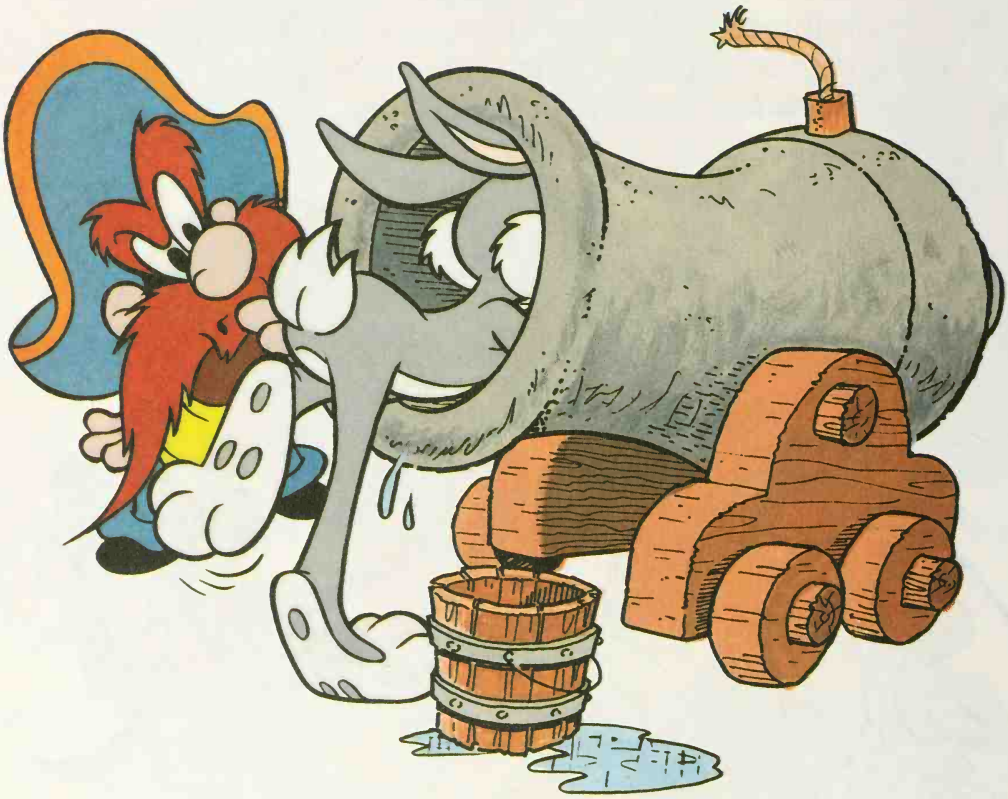
Sailor Bugs saluted. "Aye, aye, Cap'n."

"The only way to get it really clean is to crawl inside," Sam instructed.

"Aye, aye, sir," Bugs Bunny said, scrambling inside the cannon with brushes and rags. He sang while he scrubbed the insides of the dark cannon.

Sam tiptoed to the cannon, struck a match, and thought, "Good-bye, ya carrot-chompin' critter!"

He lit the fuse and plugged his ears.



Sam waited, but nothing happened. Then Bugs scrambled out of the cannon.

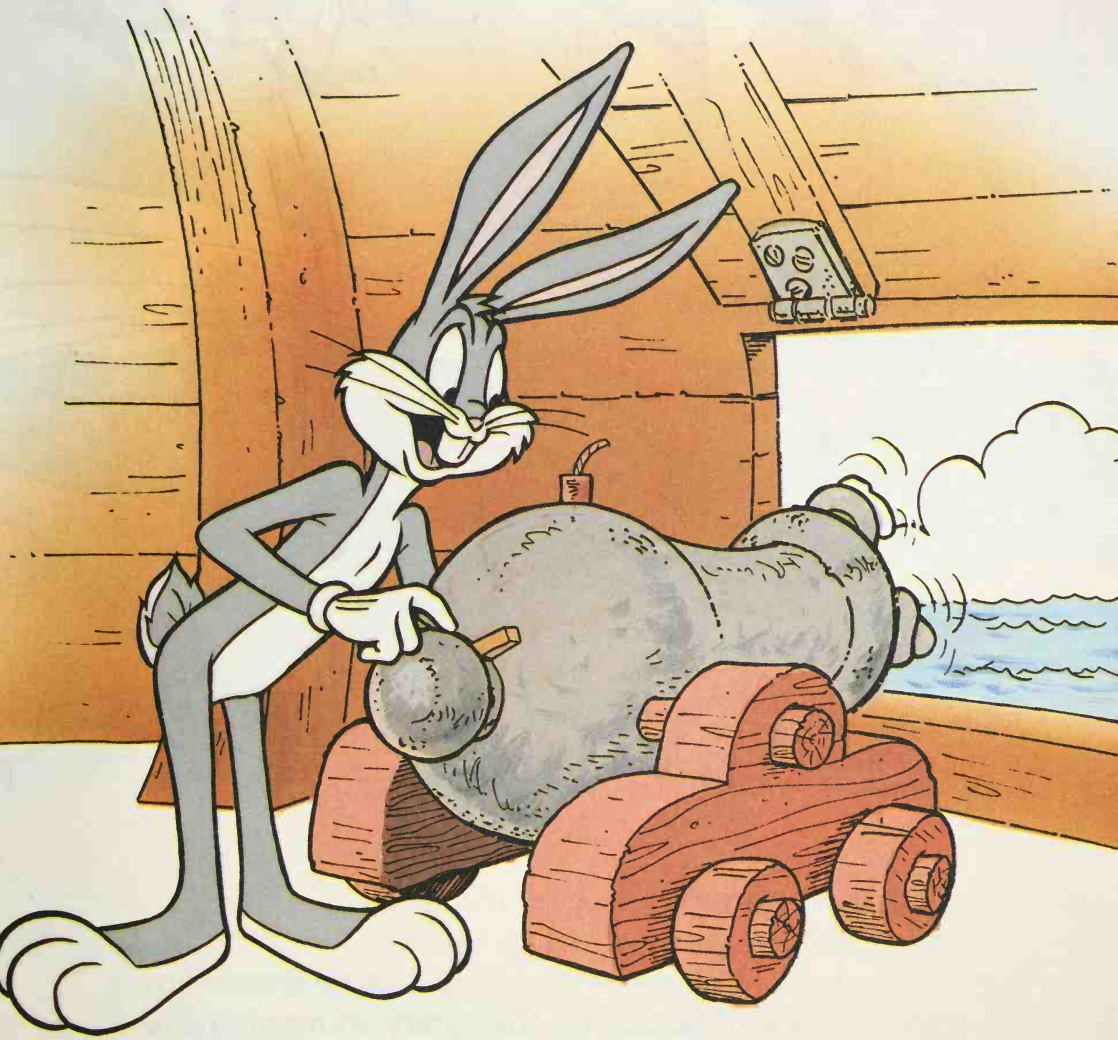
"It's all clean, doc," Crewman Bunny reported.

"What in tarnation?" Sam exclaimed. "I mean—hmm, something's wrong. I better check the cannon myself," he said with a frown.

"The dang-blasted thing's supposed to fire," Sam muttered from inside the cannon.

"Maybe you need to release the safety catch," Bugs said, flipping the catch.

"Wait!" Sam yelled, but it was too late.



BOOM! Sam flew way up into the sky, where an angry sea gull squawked in his ear.

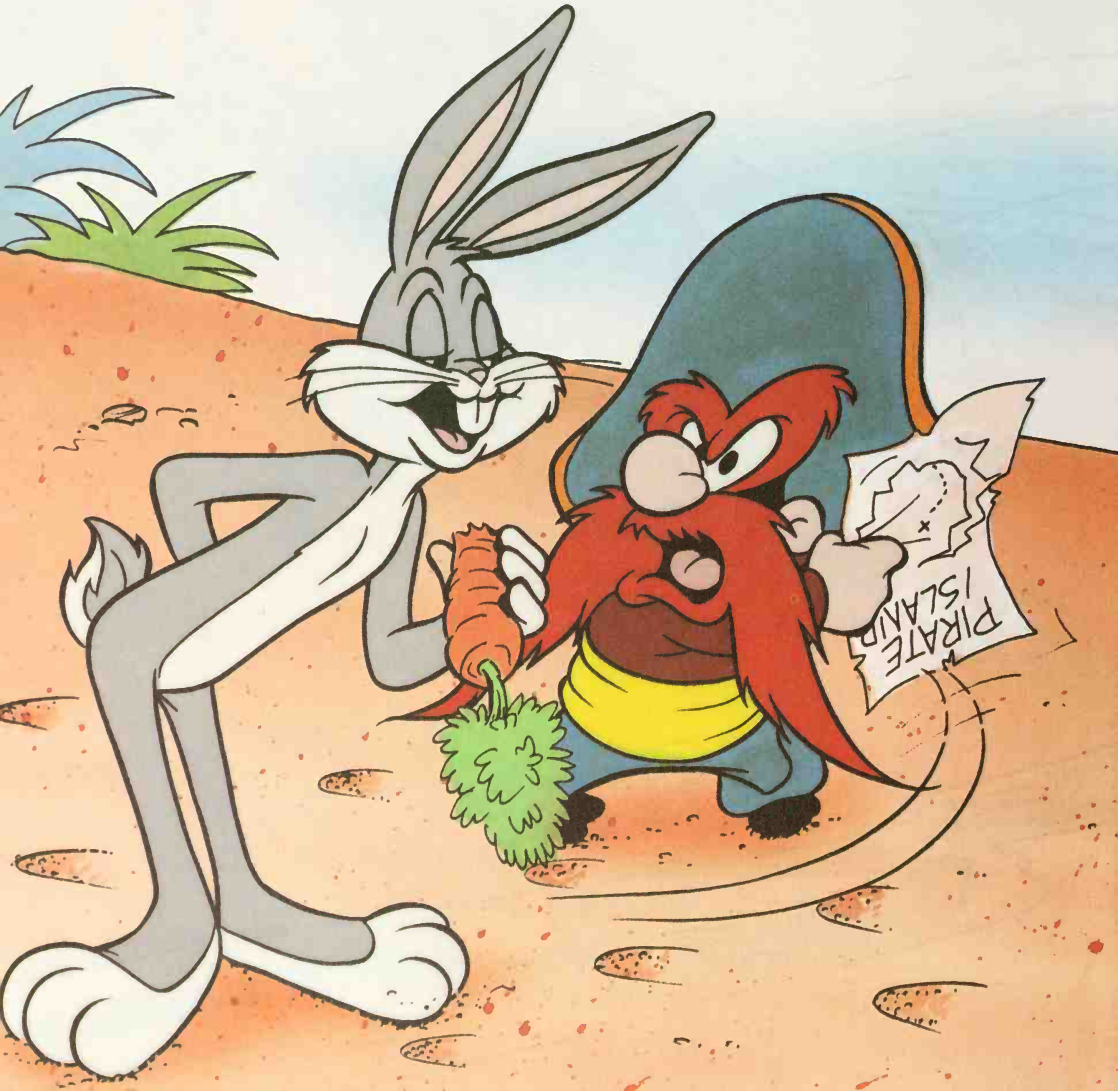
"Land ho!" Yosemite Sam yelled as he zoomed over the waves and landed on the sandy shore of Pirate Island.

By the time Bugs lowered a lifeboat and rowed to the island, Sam was already searching for the treasure.

"Two paces to the left," he muttered, studying his map.

"What's up doc?" Bugs asked, leaning over Sam's shoulder.

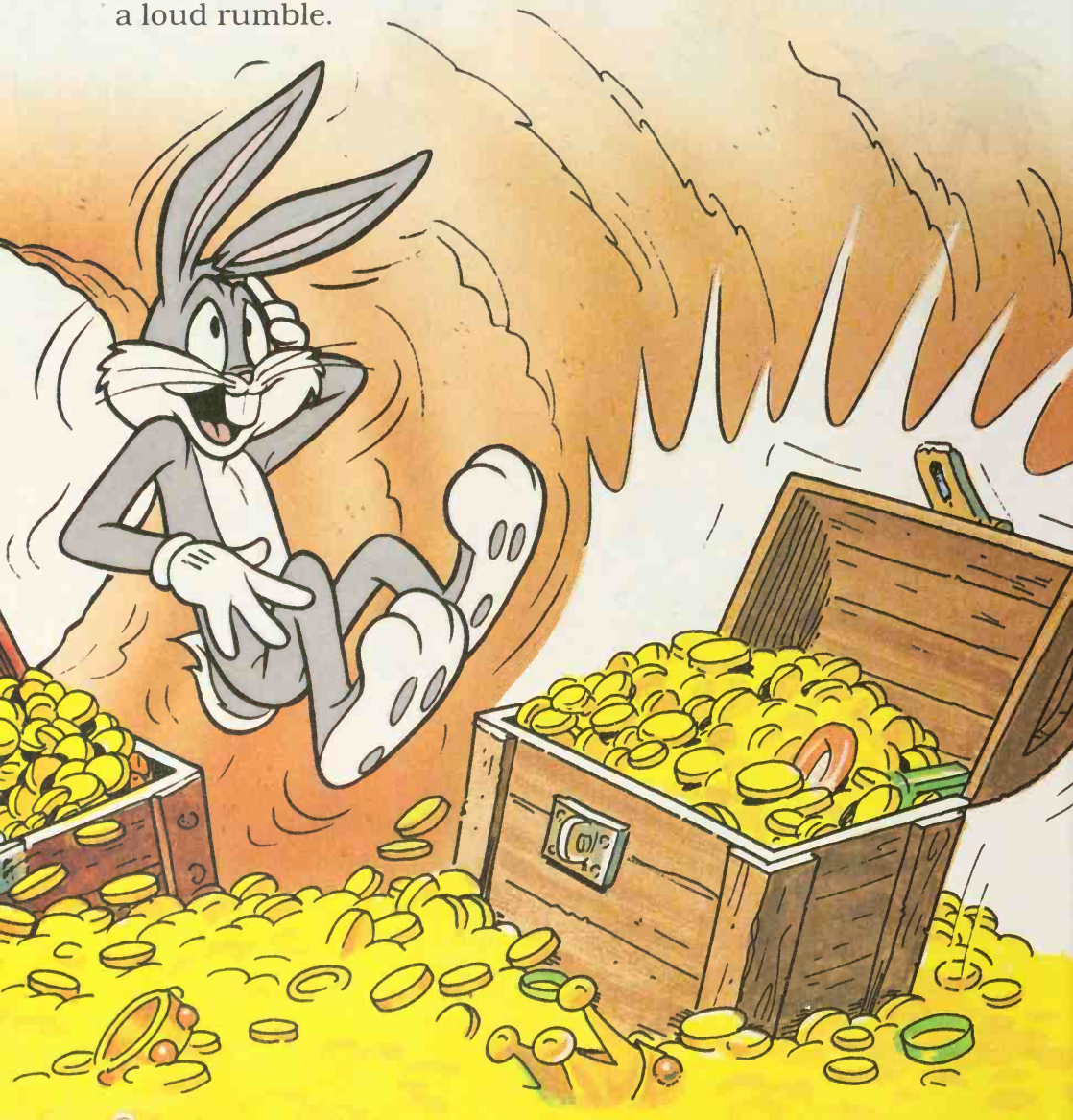
"Take one more look at muh map and I'll fix you into fricasee!" Sam blustered.



"Don't mind me. I'm just lookin' for coconuts," Bugs said, strolling away. To himself he muttered, "Whadda maroon! He's holding that map upside down. The treasure isn't buried in the valley—it's in a cave near the top of that volcano."

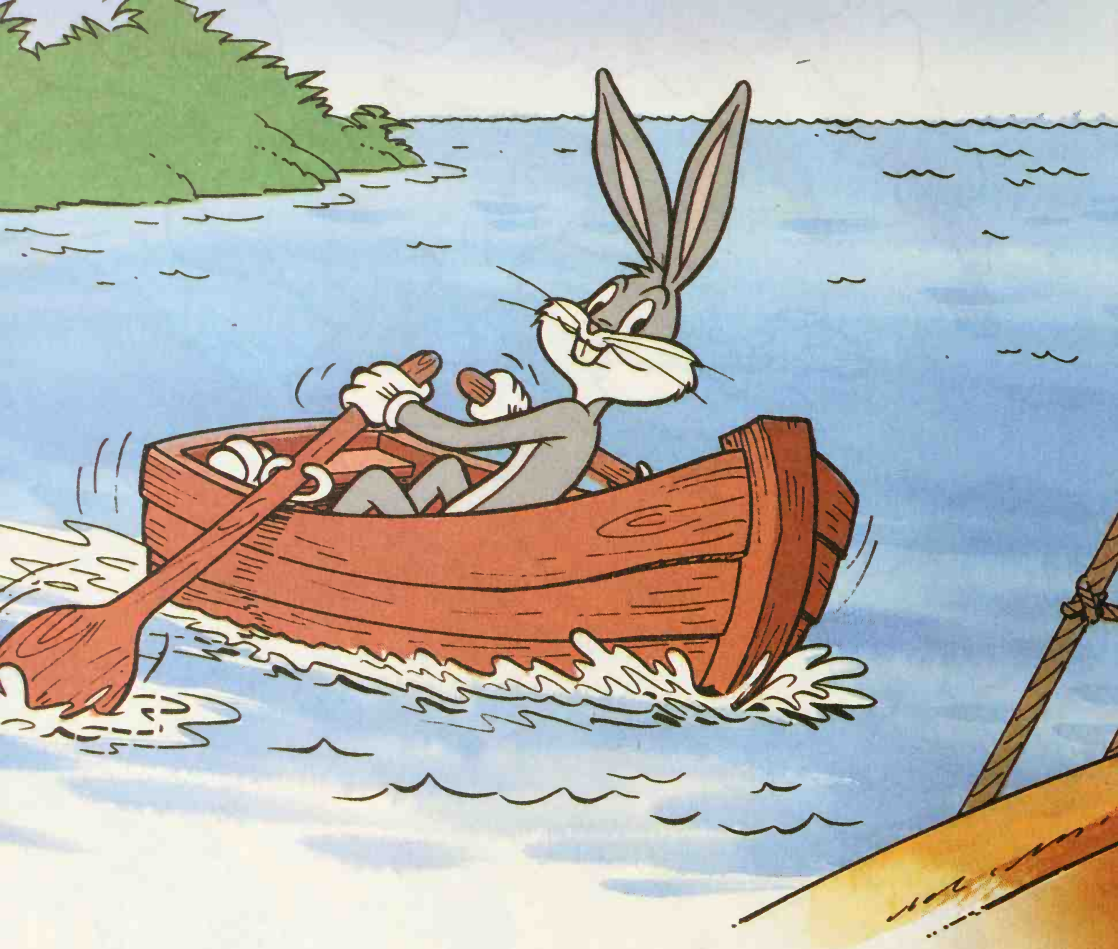
Bugs climbed the smoking volcano. Near the top he found a cave filled with treasure chests gleaming with pirate gold. "There's enough treasure here to make a gold carrot the size of Mt. Rushmore," Bugs said with a whistle.

But before he could grab any of the gold, Bugs heard a loud rumble.



Bugs raced for shore as fast as he could. "The volcano's going to blow!" he warned Sam.

Sam shook the map at Bugs. "You can't fool me, ya flea-bitten treasure-napper! The gold's in the cave, and I'mma gonna get it!" Sam hollered as he ran up the rumbling volcano.



Sam reached the cave just as the volcano erupted. "Not again!" yelled Sam as he felt himself being lifted high above the shaking cave.

The explosion sent Sam and the treasure flying through the air. He landed with a thud on the deck of his ship atop a mountain of gold.

Sam grabbed two handfuls of gold coins and threw them over his head in a glittering shower.

"I won, ya mangy critter!" he yelled to Bugs, who was rowing the lifeboat from the shore to the ship.

Bugs just shrugged his shoulders.

Sam wondered what was going on. Wherever he looked the ocean was rising. Then Sam realized his ship was going down! The treasure chests had made holes in his ship!

"Save me! Save the treasure!" Yosemite Sam cried.

"Sure thing," Bugs said when he'd reached the sinking ship. The crate of carrots floated by. He hauled it into the lifeboat.

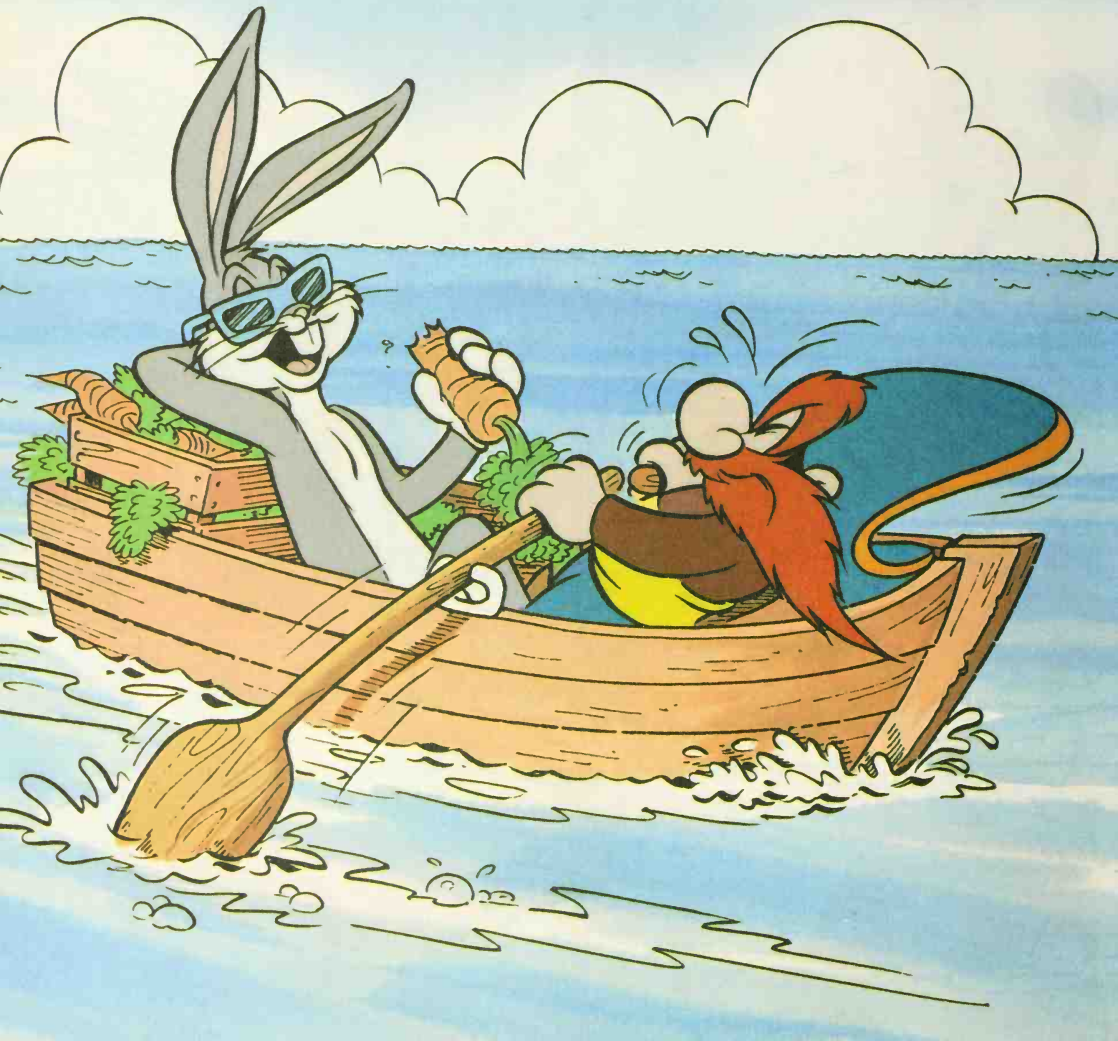
"Are you out of your carrot-pickin' mind?" Sam screamed.

In a few minutes all the pirate gold was beneath the blue sea, and Sam and Bugs were safe in the lifeboat.

Bugs was relaxing. He slowly munched on a carrot while Sam rowed, brooding over his sunken treasure.

"Ah hates rabbits," Sam grumbled.

"Relax, doc," Bugs said. "It's only two hundred more miles to Pismo Beach."



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